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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,230	11/07/2000	Adam T. Lake	10559/296001/P9307	1146

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EXAMINER

CHEN, PO WEI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2676

10

DATE MAILED: 02/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/708,230

Applicant(s)

LAKE ET AL.

Examiner

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on December 1, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2676

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, and 21 are independent claims. This action is non-final.

The present title of the invention is "Rendering a Pencil-Sketch Image".

The Group Art Unit of the Examiner case is now 2697. Please use the proper Art Unit number to help us serve you better.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 11, and 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakaibara (US 5,786,822; refer to as Sakaibara) in view of Stokes (US 5,611,030) and Bronskill (US 6,201,549).

3. Regarding claim 1, Sakaibara discloses a method and apparatus for mapping texture on an object displayed comprising:

A method of rendering an image from three-dimensional data ("The present invention relates to display of a three-dimensional graphics image", see lines 10-14 of column 1);

Determining a texture for a polygon defined by the three-dimensional data ("selecting the preset texture data for one of the predetermined view directions corresponding to an actual view direction for each said polygon being actually displayed", see lines 10-13 of column 11);

The texture is comprised of tiles (lines 1-16 of abstract and Fig. 4; it is well known in the art that texture maps can be considered as tiles);

Obtaining texture values for vertices of the polygon (see lines 36-42 and lines 60-63 of column 1);

Projecting the polygon onto a two-dimensional surface; mapping texture onto the polygon to render the image ("A texture mapping method for mapping texture data on each of a plurality of polygons constituting a displayed polyhedron on a display screen", see lines 64-66 of column 10).

Sakaibara does not disclose in a case where all vertices do not have the same texture value, assigning the texture to the polygon based on a texture value of a majority of the vertices of the polygon; However, this is known in the art taught by Stokes. Stokes teaches a color gamut mapping system that utilize the method (see lines 11-16 of column 17). While claim recites texture and texture value, it is clear that the color of a polygon can be considered as the texture for the polygons (see lines 15-17 of column 2 and Fig. 4, Stokes) and color values corresponds to texture values. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time of invention to utilize the teaching of Stokes to provide the advantage of providing a greater flexibility in gamut mapping (see lines 31-33 of column 3).

The combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose mapping comprises arranging the tiles so that there is substantial continuity between at least some of the tiles, and wherein the substantial continuity is determined based on at least one of tangents to markings in the tiles and derivatives of the markings in the tiles. Bronskill teaches a method for drawing and painting with bitmap brushes utilizing the method (lines 1-13 and 37-48 of column 9; the points in the

Art Unit: 2676

texture maps correspond to markings in the tiles). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to substitute the texture mapping of Bronskill for the texture mapping of Sakaibara because Bronskill teaches that such texture mapping will provide a highly realistic artistic or photo stroke that appear to be hand drawn and painted digitally (lines 51-53 and 65-67 of column 1).

Sakaibara does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Also, a pencil sketch is a basic, single frame, primitive of an animation image. Thus, the limitation is met as it would have been obvious to perform the process on images that are similar to the animation example of the references.

4. Regarding claims 11 and 21, the statement presented, above, with respect to claim 1 is incorporated herein.

5. Claims 2-3, 12-13, and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakaibara (US 5,786,822; refer to as Sakaibara) and Stokes (US 5,611,030) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Salesin et al. (US 5,847,712; refer to as Salesin herein).

6. Regarding claims 2 and 3, it is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose obtaining a set of pencil-sketch markings; and constructing the pencil-sketch texture using the pencil sketch markings; arranging the pencil sketch markings at a predetermined density such that the pencil sketch markings are at least one of parallel and perpendicular to one another. However, this is known in the art taught by Salesin. Salesin teaches a method and system for generating graphic illustrations that "The stroke texture 38 is comprised of at least

Art Unit: 2676

one stroke 26 and usually of a plurality of similar type strokes" (see lines 57-67 of column 8 and Fig. 3A-3F). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Salesin to provide "an easy and efficient way to produce pen-and-ink illustrations" (see lines 62-63 of column 4, Salesin).

It is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Thus, the limitation is met.

7. Regarding claims 12-13 and 22-23, the statement presented, above, with respect to claim 2-3 is incorporated herein.

8. Claims 4, 14, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakaibara (US 5,786,822; refer to as Sakaibara) and Stokes (US 5,611,030) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Yoshioka. et al. (US 6,478,680; refer to as Yoshioka herein).

9. Regarding claim 4, it is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose selecting a background onto which the image is rendered. However, this is known in the art taught by Yoshioka. Yoshioka teaches a game apparatus and method of displaying moving picture that "The 3D graphics data 201a defines shapes of three dimensional objects to be displayed such as a character object or background objects" (see lines 33-38 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Yoshioka to provide the functionality of allowing different backgrounds to be used in creating an image.

Art Unit: 2676

It is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Thus, the limitation is met.

10. Regarding claims 14 and 24, the statement presented, above, with respect to claim 4 is incorporated herein.

11. Claims 5-10, 15-20, and 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakaibara (US 5,786,822; refer to as Sakaibara) and Stokes (US 5,611,030) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Billyard (US 5,757,321) and Yoshioka. et al. (US 6,478,680; refer to as Yoshioka herein).

12. Regarding claims 5 and 7, Sakaibara discloses a method and apparatus for mapping texture on an object displayed comprising:

Obtaining texture values of the polygon (see lines 36-42 and lines 60-63 of column 1) and assigning texture (see abstract);

The combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose each value is obtaining based on a normal vector to the polygon and a light vector between the polygon and a light source; the value is obtained by calculating the vector dot product of the normal vector and the light vector. However this is known in the art taught by Billyard. Billyard teaches an apparatus and method for clipping primitive comprising "In the embodiment, the H vector is not calculated and a specular highlight is simulated by considering the dot product of N with L", see lines 30-32 of column 15 and Fig. 5A-B). And classifying the polygon based on a texture value for the polygon ("In the embodiment, the polygon data is arranged in a list so that polygons having a significant

Art Unit: 2676

level of specular reflection are grouped together”, see lines 13-26 of column 14). It is further noted that polygons are grouped according to their specular reflection. And specular reflection calculation involves dot product of N (normal) and L (light) vectors. Also, while claim recites texture value, it is clear that the specular reflection calculation is used to produce color mapping which can be considered as texture mapping for the polygons (see lines 4-7 of column 20).

Thus, limitation of claim is met;

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Billyard in place of the similar lighting process of Sakaibara to provide the advantage of reducing computation overhead (see lines 46-48 of column 1 of Billyard).

The combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose associating the texture with the polygon based on the classification of the polygon though it does perform a texture mapping process. However, this is known in the art taught by Yoshioka. Yoshioka teaches a game apparatus and method of displaying moving picture comprising “each object is represented by a group of polygons constituting its surface...the texture address data respectively designates texture data which should be mapped to the object” (see lines 33-44 of column 9). It is further noted that while claim recites classification, the term is broad enough to have the same meaning as grouping polygons. Thus, the limitation of claim is met.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Yoshioka in place of the texturing process of Sakaibara to provide the advantage of reducing the amount of processing required for texture mapping.

It is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have

Art Unit: 2676

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Thus, the limitation is met.

13. Regarding claim 6, Sakaibara discloses a method and apparatus for mapping texture on an object displayed comprising:

The normal vector is a vertex normal of the polygon ("a normal vector (n_x, n_y, n_z) at each vertex, see line 34-35 of column 5 and Fig. 3").

14. Regarding claim 8, it is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose the polygon is classified by associating the polygon with one of M ($M > 1$) bins, each of the M bins corresponding to a predetermined range of values. However this is known in the art taught by Billyard. Billyard teaches an apparatus and method for clipping primitive that "In the embodiment, the polygon data is arranged in a list so that polygons having a significant level of specular reflection are grouped together" (see lines 13-26 of column 14). It is further noted that polygons are grouped according to their specular reflection values. Also, while claim recites bin, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to realize group functions the same as a bin. Thus, limitation of claim is met;

15. Regarding claim 9, it is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose the texture is associated with the polygon based on which of the M bins into which the polygon falls. However, this is known in the art taught by Yoshioka. Yoshioka teaches a game apparatus and method of displaying moving picture comprising "each object is represented by a group of polygons constituting it surface...the texture address data respectively designates texture data which should be mapped to the object" (see lines 33-44 of column 9). It is further

Art Unit: 2676

noted that while claim recites bin, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to realize group functions the same as a bin. Thus, limitation of claim is met;

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teaching of Yoshioka to provide the advantage of reducing the amount of processing required for texture mapping.

It is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Thus, the limitation is met.

16. Regarding claim 10, Sakaibara discloses a method and apparatus for mapping texture on an object displayed comprising:

The three-dimensional data defines a three-dimensional model; and the method further comprises: re-positioning the three-dimensional model relative to the two-dimensional surface ("The present invention relates to display of a three-dimensional graphics image" and "A texture mapping method for mapping texture data on each of a plurality of polygons constituting a displayed polyhedron on a display screen", see lines 10-14 of column 1 and lines 64-66 of column 10);

Repeating determining, projecting and mapping for a second polygon on the three-dimensional model to render a second pencil-sketch image. This is known as discussed with respect to claim 1, above.

It is noted that the combination of Sakaibara and Stokes does not disclose pencil-sketch texture, instead, animation was used as an example (see lines 17-21 of column 3). It would have

Art Unit: 2676

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to realize that the term pencil-sketch has the same function as animation. Thus, the limitation is met.

17. Regarding claims 15-20 and 25-30, the statement presented, above, with respect to claim 5-10 is incorporated herein.

Response to Arguments

18. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 11 and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

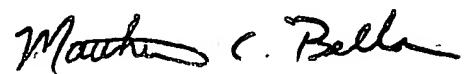
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-8365. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew C Bella can be reached on (703) 308-6829. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen
Examiner
Art Unit 2676

Po-Wei (Dennis) Chen
February 17, 2004



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